Law to control spurious medicines

1151. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons arrested for selling fake medicines in each State during the last one year;

(b) the action taken against them so far;

(c) whether Government propose to make laws more stringent to stop sale of such fake medicines; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Under the provisions of Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940, and Rules made there under, the State Governments are empowered to regulate and monitor the quality of drugs moving in the market. Action in respect of any complaints for possible manufacture or sale of spurious drugs is taken by the State Govts. through their respective drugs control organizations. As per the feedback available from the Drugs Controllers of States/UTs, for the period 2004-2005, 23 persons were arrested for contravention of the provisions of Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Rules there under.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) The Government has introduced the Drugs and Cosmetics (Amendment) Bill, 2005, in Parliament to provide stricter penalties to the offenders including a maximum penalty of life imprisonment with a fine of Rs. 100,000/- and make the offences non-bailable and cognizable. This has been referred to the Standing Committee for consideration.

Vitamin and mineral deficiencies

1152. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that 30 per cent people in India suffer from vitamin and mineral deficiencies;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether it is also a fact that women and children are the most affected as it damage health, impair work capacity, impact reproduction, reduce intelligence and occupational choices;

(d) if so, the details of such affected people;

(e) whether it is also a fact that less than Rs. 5 per child can tackle micronutrient deficiencies problem as per the latest report released by Micronutrient Initiatives; and

(f) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (f) As per surveys conducted by various institutions, vitamin and mineral deficiencies, also known as micronutrient deficiencies, are prevalent in varying degrees in the country. The most vulnerable groups are women of reproductive age, young children, adolescents and the elderly. As per the National Family Health Survey-II, (1998-99), the prevalence of anemia in women and children in the country and State-wise details are given in Statement-I and Statement-II respectively. (*See* below). Iodine Deficiency Disorders (IDD) surveys conducted by Directorate General of Health Services, Indian Council of Medical Research, the State Health Directorates and Medical Institutions covering all States/ UTs have revealed that out of 321 districts surveyed, 260 districts are endemic to IDD i.e. where the prevalence of IDD is more than 10%. The State-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement-III (*See* below). The prevalence of blindness due to Vitamin A deficiency as per the survey conducted by National Blindness Control Programme is 0.04%

The well known strategies to prevent and control micronutrient deficiencies are supplementation, fortification and dietary diversification. Government is implementing a combination of all the three strategies such as distribution of iron and folic acid tablet to pregnant and lactating women and children (1-5 yrs) for prevention and control of anaemia and supplementation of Vitamin A to children below 3 years to prevent and control Vitamin A deficiency under the RCH Programme of National Rural Health Mission and supply of iodated salt in place of common salt under National Iodine Deficiency Disease Control Programme (NIDDCP). A pilot programme for control of Micronutrient Deficiencies *per se* in five States is also in operation.

Statement-I

Percentage of ever-married women classified as having iron-deficiency anaemia by degree of anaemia, according to State, India, 1998-99

State	Percentage of women with any anaemia	Percentage of women with:		
		Mild anaemia	Moderate anaemia	Severe anaemia
India	51.8	35.0	14.8	1.9
North				
Delhi	40.5	29.6	9.6	1.3
Haryana	47.0	30.9	14.5	1.6
Himachal Pradesh	40.5	31.4	8.4	0.7
Jammu & Kashmir	58.7	39.3	17.6	1.9
Punjab	41.4	28.4	12.3	0.7
Rajasthan	48.5	32.3	14.1	2.1
Central				
Madhya Pradesh	54.3	37.6	15.6	1.0
Uttar Pradesh	48.7	33.5	13.7	1.5
East				
Bihar	63.4	42.9	19.0	1.5
Orissa	63.0	45.1	16.4	1.6
West Bengal	62.7	45.3	15.9	1.5
Northeast				
Arunachal Pradesh	62.5	50.6	11.3	0.6
Assam	69.7	43.2	25.6	0.9
Manipur	28.9	21.7	6.3	0.8
Meghalaya	63.3	33.4	27.5	2.4
Mizoram	48.0	35.2	12.1	0.7
Nagaland	38.4	27.8	9.6	1.0
Sikkim	61.1	37.3	21.4	2.4
West				
Goa	36.4	27.3	8.1	1.0
Gujarat	46.3	29.5	14.4	2.5
Maharashtra	48.5	31.5	14.1	2.9
South				
Andhra Pradesh	49.8	32.5	14.9	2.4
Karnataka	42.4	26.7	13.4	2.3
Kerala	22.7	19.5	2.7	0.5
Tamil Nadu	56.5	36.7	15.9	3.9

Note: The haemoglobin levels are adjusted for altitude of the enumeration area and for smoking when calculating the degree of anaemia.

WHO has Suggested.

Statement-II

Table 7.19 Anaemia among children by state

Percentage of children age 6-35 months classified as having iron-deficiency anaemia by state, India, 1998-99

State	Percentage of children with anaemia	Percentage of childern with:		
		Mild anaemia	Moderate anaemia	Severe anaemia
India	74.3	22.9	45.9	5.4
North				
Delhi	69.0	22.2	42.9	3.9
Haryana	83.9	18.0	58.8	7.1
Himachal Pradesh	69.9	28.7	39.0	2.2
Jammu & Kashmir	71.1	29.1	38.5	3.5
Punjab	80.0	17.4	56.7	5.9
Rajasthan	82.3	20.1	52.7	9.5
Central				
Madhya Pradesh	75.0	22.0	48.1	4.9
Uttar Pradesh	73.9	19.4	47.8	6.7
East				
Bihar	81.3	26.9	50.3	4.1
Orissa	72.3	26.2	43.2	2.9
West Bengal	78.3	26.9	46.3	5.2
Northeast				
Arunachal Pradesh	54.5	29.1	24.7	0.7
Assam	63.2	31.0	32.2	0.0
Manipur	45.2	22.6	21.7	0.9
Meghalaya	67.6	23.4	39.8	4.3
Mizoram	57.2	32.2	22.7	2.3
Nagaland	43.7	22.0	18.7	3.0
Sikkim	76.5	28.4	40.7	7.5
West				
Goa	53.4	23.5	27.9	2.0
Gujarat	74.5	24.2	43.7	6.7
Maharashtra	76.0	24.1	47.4	4.4
South				
Andhra Pradesh	72.3	23.0	44.9	4.4
Karnataka	70.6	19.6	43.3	7.6
Kerala	43.9	24.4	18.9	0.5
Tamil Nadu	69.0	21.9	40.2	6.9

Note: Haemoglobin levles are adjusted for altitude when calculating the degree of anaemia.

Statement-III

Statement showing the prevalence of Iodine Deficiency Disorders in the country, State-wise as per survey

State/UT	Total No. of Districts	Districts Surveyed	Districts Endemic
Andhra Pradesh	23	12	11
Arunachal Pradesh	13	11	11
Assam	23	18	14
Bihar	37	14	14
Chhatisgarh	16	2	2
Goa	2	2	2
Gujarat	25	16	8
Haryana	19	11	9
Himachal Pradesh	12	10	10
Jammu & Kashmir	14	14	14
Jharkhand	18	9	8
Karnataka	27	20	6
Kerala	14	14	12
Madhya Pradesh	45	14	14
Maharashtra	35	29	21
Manipur	9	8	8
Meghalaya	7	4	4
Mizoram	8	3	3
Nagaland	8	7	7
Orissa	30	8	7
Punjab	17	3	3
Rajasthan	32	3	3
Sikkim	4	4	4
Tamil Nadu	30	29	18
Tripura	4	3	3
Uttar Pradesh	70	28	22
Uttranchal	13	9	9
West Bengal	18	5	5
A&N Islands	2	2	2
Chandigarh	1	1	1
Daman & Diu	2	1	1
D&N Haveili	1	1	1
NCT Delhi	9	1	1
Lakshdweep	1	1	0
Pondicherry	4	4	2
TOTAL	593	321	260

Endemic District—District where rate of IDD is more than 10%.